THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. As and when complaints/cases of irregularities and corruption are reported, the same are investigated by the Departmental Vigilance Machinery and necessary disciplinary action as per rules is taken in cases where charges are established. Also, help of specialized investigating agencies like Police and CBI is taken in cases where deemed fit and action initiated/taken against the delinquent officers/ officials.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

National Knowledge Commission

110. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main purposes of setting up of National Knowledge Commission;

(b) the manner in which it will help in spreading knowledge across the country;

(c) whether it has started its activities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The National Knowledge Commission has been constituted to advise the Prime Minister on matters relating to institutions of knowledge creation, knowledge application and knowledge dissemination. Its terms of reference are as follows:

1. Build excellence in the educational system to meet the knowledge challenges of the 21st Century and increase India's competitive advantage in fields of knowledge.
2. Promote the creation of knowledge in S&T laboratories.
3. Improve the management of institutions engaged in intellectual property rights.
4. Promote knowlege applications in agriculture and industry.

5. Promote the use of Knowledge capabilities in making government an effective, transparent and accountable service provider to the citizen and promote widespread sharing of knowledge to maximize public benefit.

(c) 'Yes'.

(d) The activities of the Knowledge Commission are focused on five broad areas, namely, Access to Knowledge, Knowledge Concepts, Knowledge Creation, Knowledge Application and Knowledge Services.

Fees to be collected from university students

†111. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have instructed all the universities through University Grants Commission to meet 20 per cent of their expenditure from the fees to be collected from the students;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to these instructions universities will now be compelled to increase the fees of the students; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the likely amount of resultant annual savings to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Questions do not arise.

Dismal condition of school education

†112. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.